

Minutes for Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission

April 5, 2016 – 4:00 p.m. at Hampton History Museum

Attending:

Ann Bane
Steve Bond
Jimmy Cerracchio
Terri Crickenberger
Billie Einselen
Colita Fairfax
Aaron Firth
Laura Fitzpatrick
Mary Fugere
Simeon Green
William Harper
Mike Kuhns
Will Moffett
Glenn Oder
Raymond Tripp
Claude Vann
William Wiggins
Audrey Williams

Excused:

Valinda Carroll
Luci Cochran
Larry Gibson
Artisia Green
Rob Shuford

Absent:

Hugh Harrell

The regular monthly meeting of the Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission was held on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at the Hampton History Museum at 4:00 p.m. Minutes for March 1, 2016 were approved with the corrections as noted.

We have been allowed \$5.25 million for the Visitor Center, which will be located at the Post Library at Ft. Monroe. If we connect the Visitor Center to the contraband story and the history, then people will come to Ft. Monroe and Hampton. It was mentioned that we may not know if the President is attending in 2016 until we get closer to the date, but we do need to lock the Governor in to make sure he is attending in August, 2016.

Dr. Colita Fairfax shared that the 1610 Making of America Conference will be held on September 8 at NSU. She also shared that a team of Congressional leaders have introduced federal legislation to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Africans at Point Comfort in 1619.

Glen Oder shared that the State Commission is planning three launch events in 2016 and one of them is the 1619 arrival of Africans.

Kirsten Talken-Spaulling is leaving Ft. Monroe for a position in Spotsylvania and they have not made a selection yet to replace her.

Laura Fitzpatrick shared that interviews for the Event Planner position have been completed and they will be announcing the name next week. She will have the Memorandum of Understanding completed by the next meeting of the Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission.

Signature Events Committee: The theatrical performance that Artisia Green is working on will cost around \$10,000, so there will be a need for funds. She is checking into the American Theatre as an option. There is a ballpark figure of around \$3,000 for the day. She is also looking at TNCC Theatre for another possible option. The cost would be around \$800-\$1,000. There would be an additional cost of \$6,000 for hall rental and other inclusive considerations for this theatrical production, for example 30 actors at \$100 for each actor. A \$10 ticket value for one person to see the show was recommended by Artisia Green. Fort Monroe Theatre with 600 seats was suggested as a possible option. It was decided this venue would probably not work, as it is a stage and not a theatre. The question was raised as to how Project 1619 would like us to coordinate with them on that weekend of August 2016.

Laura Fitzpatrick suggested that we need to send a memo to the City Manager for consideration regarding what we will need money for, such as the theatre program. City Manager Bunting will then present this to City Council. The City Manager is working on her proposed budget now. We must be clear on what we want and show how the money will be spent. City staff (Laura Fitzpatrick) will give assistance with a budget request and she will make a template for us. Claude Vann, Colita Fairfax and Laura Fitzpatrick will take the lead on this project, as there were no objections from the Commission. Steve Bond shared that the budget needs to get to the City Manager as soon as possible and suggested it would be best to use electronic media to help this process move faster. The co-chairs will meet again with the Signature Committee and come up with a first draft to submit to the City Manager. Jimmy Cerracchio will provide dollar amounts to our co-chairs on things such as police charges for an event, etc. It was suggested that we need to include money in the budget for marketing as this will help make our public aware of 1619 and 2019. This would be specifically for the Friday event in August, 2016. Also, if the President comes in 2016, we may need money for a possible ribbon cutting event at the new Visitor Center at Ft. Monroe.

Marketing Committee: We now have a website and HCVB staff is currently posting information on the website. There will be a calendar of events on this website. The website will cost about \$4,000-\$5,000, which HCVB will pay. HCVB has purchased two domains and business cards for the co-chairs are currently being completed. And we will be getting a bid for the shirts.

Old Business: None

New Business: Colita Fairfax suggested that maybe we have a children's event at the Buckroe Beach shelter for the Sunday event in August, 2016.

Will Moffett inquired if there had been discussion about a display or exhibit that would be mobile. It was agreed that this would be a good thing. He suggested that we talk with Luci Cochran about what could be done at the History Museum regarding the display and the cost for the budget. Colita Fairfax suggested having magnets that would be a conversation piece to give away to citizens.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

*Submitted by Terri Crickenberger
4/13/2016*